

SEASON 1990/91

Issue No.

MATCHDAY MAGAZINE

CREWE

Alexandra

BARCLAYS LEAGUE
DIVISION THREE

Tuesday, 16th April, 1991

Kick off 7.30 p.m.

versus

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Crewe Alexandra Official Programme
Compiled and Edited by Harold Finch

Views expressed by individual
contributors are not necessarily those of
the Football Club.

Gresty NEWSDesk

A SPECIAL MESSAGE TO ALL SUPPORTERS

As the attendance at this evening's fixture will, most probably, be much higher than for a normal league fixture may we ask those present to please assist the stewards on duty and ensure that all exit points are kept clear.

We feel sure that you will appreciate that what we are asking is in the interests of safety for all present and that at the end of the game when leaving the ground you take extra care and above all have a safe journey home.

NEWS FROM THE CLUB SHOP

As regular readers of this column will be aware we have a certain number of items in the club shop which are being offered to supporters at special reduced prices. Why not call in and see exactly what we have to offer. We feel sure that you will not be disappointed.

RED LION CLUB

Membership of the above club is continuing to grow at a steady rate and in consequence it means that we are able to raise more funds for the benefit of the club. A full list of winners for week No. 6 will be appearing in the next edition of the Matchday Magazine.

TRAVEL NEWS

In just a week's time we start on our travels once again with a trip to Grimsby for the rearranged league fixture. The date for this trip is **Tuesday, 23rd April**. Coaches will be leaving Gresty Road at 3.45 p.m. and the fare will be £5.50.

On the Saturday following the Grimsby trip the **27th April** we shall be on the road again, this time it is to Birmingham. Coaches for this trip will be leaving Gresty Road at 1.00 p.m. and the fare on this occasion will be £3.50.

Bookings for either or both of these trips can be made at the club offices during normal working hours.

Cover Shot:

Neil Lennon up with the attack at Preston



DARIO

Saturday's match reminded me of our first match of the season against Fulham. We were in control of the game and lost concentration just enough to drop two valuable points. They were valuable enough then, but they were even more valuable last Saturday. Our season has many such lapses of concentration and by different players all the time. If we can pull ourselves clear at this late stage then its experience will have been a terrific one and will hold us in good stead for next season. If we don't pull clear then we will maybe still benefit from the experience.

Anyway that's not up for discussion at the moment. We are getting used to not losing a bit more, especially at home, and we are expecting more from our away games recently, having come so close to getting something in our last few away games. I don't think we have ever made as many chances as we did at Rotherham, and against Exeter we were much tighter at the back. Whereas at Rotherham Andy Gorton had several good saves to make, he hardly had anything to do against Exeter.

It does seem as though there are now five teams trying to avoid going into the bottom three. Swansea must have shown great spirit in winning at Rotherham last Saturday after being 2-0 down, and they look as though they are just out of it now. Rotherham will not be happy with only one point from their last two home games, and we are getting to the stage where we are looking anxiously at other people's results. I think that we might be playing Mansfield here on the last game of the season looking at ours and maybe other's results before we know our destiny.

We have not had a run yet this season and now we have not lost at home in five games, and we may have started an unbeaten run, not having lost in our last two games, so remaining unbeaten for the rest of the season would be most welcome.

The most important asset we have at the moment is that the players think they can win their games. I thought we might get a bit nervous after we lost the lead against Exeter, but we didn't

really, and once again I thought all our players made a decent contribution.

Our supporters, home and away, have been a great help in not getting at the players. No-one is trying to miss chances and I would not be surprised if we give someone a hiding between now and the end of the season. Either way I'm not so sure that our rivals down the bottom are getting such help and your help may prove vital.

We have one or two injury problems which are affecting selection, Neil Lennon who has been in such fine form recently might be fit for tonight. He has some problems relating to his back injury which may or may not settle down quickly. Mark Gardiner is not quite 100% fit, but not far off. Craig Hignett was fit but had an argument with a glass door last Thursday, but he too could have recovered for tonight.

Dave McKearney was coming along well but did a little too much last week and suffered a set-back. Whilst Steve Walters will not play again this season we are hoping he might resume some training this week.

Our visitors tonight have been in the promotion pack for the last two seasons. The Management team of Phil Neal works very hard and watch a lot of matches. They have steadily built and improved their team and will need the points for their final push upwards. So do we, and they have never found us easy before, and there is no reason for that to change tonight. Could be a good game!

Thank you for your support!





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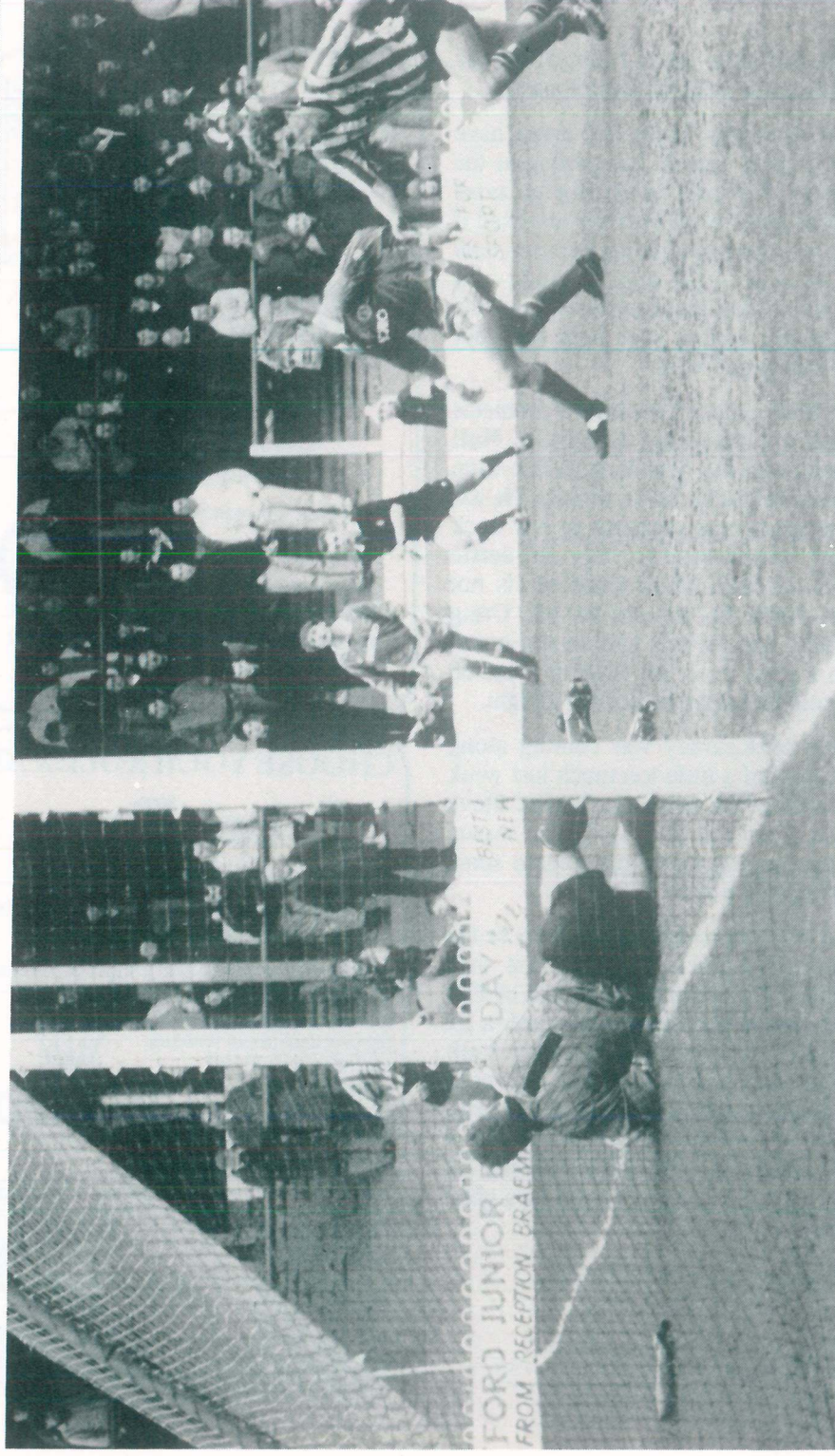
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What would your decision have been; the rule states "the whole of the ball must be over the line"!


THE SECRETARY WRITES

IS THIS A UNIQUE SITUATION?

Look around any football ground nowadays and you can be sure that you can very quickly identify Club Stewards who now play such an integral part in the matchday activities. They wear a highly distinctive jacket which can be seen irrespective of the weather conditions.

Most of their duties are to marshall crowds where there are large influxes of away supporters and assist in respect of segregation and should any difficulties occur in any section of the ground they can also assist in that context.


In addition, every ground, as to you are aware, has to have a safety certificate and built within that certificate is what would happen in the event of fire occurring at the ground. It is in this context that we can perhaps claim to be somewhat unique. Amongst our stewards on duty we do have quite a number who are volunteer stewards but their full time job is in the Fire Service and they are here with the full permission of the local Fire Chief. It is really reassuring to know that should an emergency arise due to fire, etc. we have within our midst people who would not only be able to tackle such an occurrence but who would be able to direct others as well and give great confidence to us all. There may be other grounds where this does apply but we felt that it is only right that our regular supporters should be made aware of the this particular facet of club life nowadays.



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Football in the Community

Just a week ago the boys from St. Mary's C.P. School were competing in the next stage of the **THORN HOME SECURITY CRIME PREVENTION CUP** competition. After winning the group at Crewe and then going on to win another group at Wrexham they faced the next hurdle at Bury in the Western Region Finals.

The teams taking part on this occasion were Bury, Stockport, Wigan, Aston Villa and Preston as well as ourselves. It was a strenuous competition for in all the boys had to play ten games with each team being met on two occasions. It really was a test for the stamina of the team and their substitutes for three games were played in succession by all teams and if you have not played five a side football then if you don't believe me just try it.

In their first three games they won 2 and drew one but they could not maintain that record and in the end had to be content with third place out of the six competing teams. Stockport were the Western Region winners and perhaps surprisingly, Aston Villa finished in bottom spot.

The boys taking part were Robert Hulse, Ryan Jardine, Mark Cueto, Mark Rogan, David Gray, Ade Cottrell, Joe Olszewski and Paul McGarrigle. In addition Gareth Moss and their Headmaster also made the journey with them. They very quickly got over their initial disappointment and can feel proud of the standards they set both for their school and for Crewe. If one were to pick out Crewe's player who created the biggest impression then I would single out Robert Hulse.

They did bring back with them two television sets, a conventional one and also a portable set, all competing teams received them from the sponsors, **THORN HOME SECURITY**.

JOHN SEASMAN

LANCASHIRE LEAGUE FIXTURES

DIVISION ONE

August				
Sat.	25	Rochdale 'A'	A	2-1
Fri.	31	Morecambe	A	1-3
September				
Sat.	8	Carlisle Utd. Res.	H	3-4
Sat.	15	Liverpool 'A'	A	1-1
Sat.	22	Burnley 'A'	H	4-3
Sat.	29	Man. Utd 'A'	H	1-1
October				
Sat.	6	Everton 'A'	H	3-1
Sat.	13	Blackburn R. 'A'	A	2-4
Sat.	20	Man. City 'A'	H	2-5
Sat.	27	Accrington Res.	H	8-0
November				
Sat.	3	Accrington Res.	A	3-1
Sat.	10	Morecambe Res.	H	9-0
Sat.	17	U.M.I.S.T.	H	8-1
Sat.	24	Man. Utd. 'A'	A	1-1
December				
Sat.	1	Bolton W. 'A'	A	1-2
Fri.	21	Stockport Co. (LC)	H	1-3
Sat.	22	Rochdale	H	2-1
Sat.	29	Chester 'A'	A	8-0
January				
Sat.	26	Preston N.E. 'A'	H	5-1
February				
Sat.	23	Marine Res.	H	0-1
March				
Sat.	9	U.M.I.S.T.	A	10-1
Tues.	12	Liverpool 'A'	H	4-0
Sat.	16	Bolton W. 'A'	H	4-2
Sat.	23	Preston N.E. 'A'	A	1-1
Mon.	25	Everton 'A'	A	1-2
April				
Sat.	6	Chester 'A'	H	1-0
Sat.	13	Manchester City 'A'	A	2-1
Mon.	15	Carlisle Utd. Res.	A	2-8
Sat.	20	Marine Reserves	A	
Mon.	22	Burnley 'A'	A	
Sat.	27	Blackburn 'A'	H	

DIVISION TWO

August				
Sat.	25	Wigan 'B'	H	0-0
September				
Sat.	1	Oldham 'B'	H	2-1
Sat.	8	Liverpool 'B'	A	3-0
Sat.	15	Everton 'B'	H	4-2
Sat.	22	Preston N.E. 'B'	A	3-2
October				
Sat.	6	Blackburn 'B'	A	1-0
Sat.	13	Carlisle 'A'	H	3-2
Sat.	20	Manchester C. 'B'	A	0-1
Sat.	27	Blackpool 'A'	A	4-2
November				
Sat.	3	Bury 'A'	A	10-0
Sat.	10	Marine Youth	H	6-1
Sat.	17	-		
Sat.	24	Tranmere Rov. 'B'	H	1-1
December				
Sat.	1	Manchester C. 'B'	H	4-2
Sat.	15	Everton 'B'	A	0-1
January				
Sat.	5	Liverpool 'B'	H	5-2
Sat.	12	Oldham 'B'	A	4-2
Sat.	19	Blackburn 'B'	H	5-2
February				
Sat.	2	Blackpool 'A'	H	4-2
Sat.	16	Manchester Utd. 'B'	A	3-2
Sat.	23	Stockport Co. 'B'	A	4-2
Tues.	26	Tranmere 'B'	A	1-2
March				
Sat.	2	Preston N.E. 'B'	H	8-3
Sat.	16	Wigan 'B'	A	1-2
Sat.	23	Bury 'A'	H	0-0
Sat.	30	Stockport 'B'	H	1-0
April				
Wed.	10	Manchester Utd. 'B'	H	2-2
Mon.	15	Carlisle 'A'	A	2-2
Sat.	27	Marine Youth	A	

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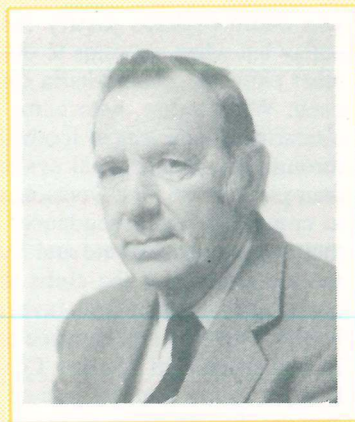
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*Editor Harold Finch
surveys the
Soccer Scene*

Until the final decision is made regarding the setting up of the Super League in this country it would be very strange if opinions both for and against were not fully expounded through the media. It will not seem the same to hear an announcer giving the full time scores without the familiar prefix. 'League Division One', a new title taking its place. Call me old fashioned if you like but the indication that it is the First Division still means to me that the teams participating in that league are the best in the country otherwise how have they managed to either remain in that top flight or gained promotion to it?

When the size of the First Division was reduced in numbers not so very long ago, I seem to recall that a number of top clubs complained that due to having blank Saturdays and other fixtures postponed due to F.A. Cup commitments they were finding it difficult to cope with the sudden loss of income. Alterations were then made and with the modifications to the promotion and relegation positions at the end of the current season the size will be increased, only, it would seem, to be reduced again at the end of the following season. That will reduce the number of Super League Fixtures even more and how then will the clubs make up the loss of revenue? - Will it all come from what has been suggested, increased Sponsorship or will it mean that the fans will have to pay much higher prices to justify the tag 'Super League'. Should that be the case then fans could find the remedy



within their own hands.

I fully realise that at this stage all the difficulties have not been fully laid out but one fact of the new structure does have me more than a little puzzled. It has been suggested that with the reduction in the number of teams and the number of fixtures there will be more time for the International players to prepare for their International games. Does this then mean that, come the day of the Super League no players would ever be considered for the England Squad unless they were one of the lucky ones registered with one of the 18 top clubs. Maybe that could be done in regard to the England squad but so far as Wales, Northern Ireland or The Republic of Ireland teams then it would not be so easy to make such a division for at the present time they have players in their squads from Divisions other than Division One.

It has always been intimated that with the great potential for Sponsorship that will arise much more money will be available to clubs for them to improve the standards of their grounds. For those who have capacities and crowds to match these much higher capacities

you could perhaps justify that type of outlay but when we come to discuss some other clubs the same criteria could not be used. Wimbledon, who came from the obscurity of non league football and rose through the promotional system to take their place in the First Division, are unable to command high attendances whatever their league placings are and Luton Town too are another of the clubs that do not come very high in the 'average gate' league. Will they still be made as welcome in the proposed 'Super League' - if finance alone is to be one of the main criterias then doubts must surely follow.

Will there be different rules regarding disciplinary actions taken against players operating within two different structures but presumerably operating within the same set of rules? A natural follow on to that would be the question of referees, will the Super League have a special panel of their own or will they, as other clubs in the Football League as at present constituted, see their games in charge of those who will have only just been placed on the Football League Referees List. The more you think about it, the more controversial aspects there seem to be but whatever I, as an individual think, even with information I have at present, my views, however important they be, will count for nothing at the end of the day, the decisions will be taken by those who wield the power within the top clubs. You never know one day the power of the fans at the clubs, I almost said the 'man on the terraces' - (they are another breed who will gradually disappear) could have an influence, if they choose not to attend then there will be nothing that the clubs can do to make them.



Manchester United took a giant step towards reaching the Final of the Cup Winners Cup when they went into a 3-1 lead in their Semi Final first leg away game against Legia Warsaw last week.

Whether it would have made any real difference if the home team had had a full team on the field for the whole of the game is difficult to know but it was a comprehensive win on the day and the Polish side will need a miracle to overcome the deficit. It will not be a very long trip for the United fans, for the final game is being staged in Rotterdam, there was talk at one stage about the possibility of the tie being moved from there but it would now seem that there will be no change in the venue.



Those fans who have Satellite Television in addition to the normal channels will have been able to see the final ties in virtually all the domestic competitions this season. It would be interesting to see if any figures are released of the actual numbers who watch these games via Satellite Channels. Happily, I do not have the other channels, should I have been in the position of having Satellite T.V. there would have been great difficulties in arranging all the other things around the football coverage. That to me highlights the danger that it can become a disease rather than a hobby when there are so many distractions available to you. In the meantime, whenever possible I prefer to watch my football action live, no television coverage can make up for the atmosphere that there can be at a live game. In the end you only see on your T.V. screens what the camera operator and then the Editor wants you to see, it would be impossible to show everything that happens around a football ground.



Before this evening ends, I will no doubt have met quite a number of old friends who have come from Bolton, I sincerely hope that it will be a good game, a great atmosphere with plenty of goals and the points going to the Alex total.



Rob Edwards prepares to get in a cross against Leyton Orient

Ian Scott slides in to challenge the Orient defender



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BOLTON WANDERERS F.C. - 1990/91



BACK ROW (left to right): Paul Hughes, Barry Cowdrill, Mark Came, Mark Winstanley, Paul Comstive, Alan Stubbs, Nicky Spooner, Robbie Savage. **MIDDLE ROW** (left to right): Phil Neal (Manager), Julian Darby, Gary Henshaw, Dean Crombie, Dave Felgate, Kevin Rose, Mike Jeffrey, Gary Brown, Neil Fisher, Mick Brown (Coach). **FRONT ROW** (left to right): Ewan Simpson (Physiotherapist), David Reeves, Phil Brown, Tony Philliskirk, Stuart Storer, Steve Thompson, David Burke, Darren Oliver, Scott Green, Steve Carroll (Youth Team Coach).

BOLTON'S TEN YEAR RECORD

Season	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.	Divn.	Posn.
1980/81	42	14	10	18	61	66	38	2	18th
1981/82	42	13	7	22	39	61	46	2	19th
1982/83	42	11	11	20	42	61	44	2	22nd
1983/84	46	18	10	18	56	60	64	3	10th
1984/85	46	16	6	24	69	75	54	3	17th
1985/86	46	15	8	23	73	83	53	3	18th
1986/87	46	10	15	21	46	58	45	3	21st
1987/88	46	22	12	12	66	42	78	4	3rd
1988/89	46	16	16	14	58	54	64	3	10th
1989/90	46	18	15	13	59	48	69	3	6th

During the last ten seasons, Bolton have appeared in Three Divisions of the Football League but when, at the end of the 1986/87 Season they were relegated to the Fourth Division it was the first time ever that the club had played in that Division but by doing so had then played in all Divisions of the Football League.

Their stay in the bottom division was just for the one season but it was a tense thing for the club had to win their very last game, away at Wrexham, to clinch that third automatic promotion place, but this they did. Should they fail to get an automatic promotion place this season, it is more than likely that they will be appearing in the play offs at the end of the season.

BOLTON WANDERERS

Previous fixtures between Crewe Alex and Bolton Wanderers have always been keenly contested with the issue normally in doubt right up to the final whistle and it will be most unusual if this evening's game does not fall into the same category.

Manager Phil Neal will be hoping that this time, his team can gain one of the three places for automatic promotion to Division Two but since their club record run of 23 games without defeat came to an end at Mansfield on the 12th March, their away form has suddenly deserted them. Three games out of the four played since the Mansfield game have ended in defeat, at Exeter, Cambridge and Bournemouth with just one point from the away game at Stoke, all the defeats have been by a single goal margin.

In cup competitions they were beaten by Coventry City in the 2nd round of the Rumbelows League Cup but in the F.A. Cup they had a much more successful run. In Round 1 they travelled to non league Witton Albion, winning 2-1, in the second round it was a narrow 4-3 win at Chesterfield, then they put out Barrow in the third before being rewarded with a plum tie at Old Trafford against Manchester United. The game was heading for a draw when Mark Hughes got the decisive goal of the game but they did have the consolation of a share in a gate of 43,293.

Tranmere Rovers were beaten by them in the Preliminary Round of the Leyland DAF Competition but they lost to Blackpool and went out of the competition. It is rather ironic to think that the team they defeated, Tranmere Rovers, did in fact get through to the Northern Area Final and now go on to meet Birmingham City in the Final at Wembley.

Of the current team, Dave Felgate and Phil Brown have been ever-presents in the side and quite a number of other players have missed very few games during the season. In their determined bid to gain promotion, several players have been signed during the season and they possess a squad which had both experience and ability. Up front, Tony Philliskirk is the man to watch, he may not have scored a hat trick so far this season but he has notched 2 goals on 4 separate occasions.

No 1 keeper is **DAVE FELGATE** who commenced his career with Bolton in 1978 but failed to make the league team in those early days and had loan spells with Rochdale and Crewe Alex before moving to Lincoln City for a fee of £25,00. After making over 200 appearances for them he had spells with Grimsby Town and Bolton before coming back once more. He has now made over 200 appearances for Bolton in the

various competitions. Has one full Welsh Cap to his credit. His deputy is **KEVIN ROSE** who started with Lincoln City before making his mark with Hereford United where he made over 200 appearances for them. Was signed by Bolton and has also had a loan spell with Carlisle United.

Club Captain, **PHIL BROWN** started his career with Hartlepool

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United and after making over 200 appearances for them moved to Halifax Town where he again passed the 100 mark. He came to Bolton in June 1988 and has been an ever present in the side ever since.. **DAVID BURKE** was born in Liverpool and started his career with Bolton before moving to Huddersfield Town in June 1981. He stayed there for six seasons and then went to Crystal Palace for a fee of £78,000 and moved to Bolton in July 1990. Has now taken over the No. 3 spot. **BARRY COWDRILL** is another experienced full back in the squad. Born in Birmingham, he started out with non league Sutton Coldfield before going to West Bromwich Albion in April 1979. Has also made 100 appearances for the club in all competitions.

PAUL COMSTIVE has played for only one club outside his native Lancashire. He started with Blackburn Rovers and before coming to Bolton he had played for Rochdale, Wigan Athletic, Wrexham and Burnley. Normally plays in one of the defensive positions. **MARK PATTERSON** is one of the players recruited during the season. He cost the club a fee of £65,000 when he moved from Bury. A left sided player, he had started out with Blackburn Rovers and then went to Preston and from there to Bury. **MARK SEAGRAVES**. He was signed from Manchester City in December and can equally operate either in the middle of the defence or as a full back. He started his career with Liverpool but he also made over 40 appearances for Manchester City. **ALLAN STUBBS** has come through the club's own youth scheme. After making a number of substitute appearances he made his full debut for the club in the home game against Wigan Athletic.

SCOTT GREEN started as a trainee with Derby County but his fee when moving to Bolton last season was £50,000. It was only in the latter part of the season that he managed to force his way into the league side. **STEVE THOMPSON**. He is now the club's longest serving professional, making his debut for the club in 1982. Came through the club's Youth ranks and has now made over 200 first team appearances in league and cup. **TONY CUNNINGHAM** was signed just before the transfer deadline from Bury. He came to Bury from Blackpool and had been a regular scorer for the seaside club. Has already played at Gresty Road this season for he was in the Bury side that were here very recently. An experienced striker and a distinct asset to the side.

TONY PHILLISKIRK. He was the club's leading scorer last season after moving from Preston North End for a fee of £50,000. His career actually started with Sheffield United where he made 60 appearances before moving to Oldham and then via Preston to Bolton. One for defenders to watch.

JULIAN DARBY is another product of the club's Youth Policy. He has proved to be a very versatile player, having been called upon to fill a variety of positions. He was an ever present last season and got into double figures on the scoring charts. **DAVID REEVES** cost a fee of £80,000 when he moved to Bolton from Sheffield Wednesday, the fee having been set by a tribunal. He had loan spells with both Scunthorpe United and Burnley. **STUART STORER** came to Bolton in 1987 from Wigan Athletic but prior to that he had been with Mansfield Town as a trainee, Birmingham City, Everton and then at Wigan. Has played over 60 games for Bolton.

Seating at Blackburn Rovers

Cover at Aston Villa

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We now come to the second in our trio of games within the space of a week here at Gresty Road when we welcome this evening Bolton Wanderers and their supporters. Matches against Bolton are always keenly contested affairs and with the respective sides desperately after points at opposite ends of the Division, it follows that this match will be no exception.

A familiar and welcome visitor to the V.P. lounge is goalkeeper Dean Greygoose. Dean has not had the best of luck with injuries this season but always manages to keep smiling and finds time for a post match chat with supporters when he comes into the lounge. We extend to him our very best wishes for a speedy recovery from his recent knee operation and at the time of writing I understand that he may be back before the end of the season.

Despite the fact that we have not had a highly successful season attendances at home league games at Gresty Road have kept remarkably stable - the average for the 18 home games prior to the Exeter one shows that the average attendance is 3837.

Usage of the revamped Vice-Presidents' lounge has increased, along with our higher membership level. Although this does not have any particular difficulties because of the extra floor space now available in our extended lounge, members are nevertheless requested to kindly move away from the serving area after they have obtained their refreshments so that everyone can quickly be served. This also applies at the end of the game when time is at a premium.

We have another home game next Saturday when our visitors are A.F.C. Bournemouth, we look forward to an enjoyable game this evening, hopefully three points in the bag and even more hopefully, three more next Saturday.

Geoff Allen

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Rob Edwards lets go with a volley in the Preston game

Craig Hignett prepares for the challenge of the two Preston defenders



THIRD DIMENSION

One Third Division Player, Mark Lever of Grimsby Town was last weekend confirmed as the Yorkshire Area, Barclays Young Eagle of the Month for March and another Third Division Club, Wigan Athletic was announced as the winners of the Performance of the Week Award for their convincing away win, 6-1 at Swansea, the previous weekend.

The latest figures, in terms of attendances in the Division for the current season show that the overall attendances at league games show an increase of 3.4% over Season 1989/90. For the 466 games played, the total attendances was 2,388,775, giving an average of 5126, compared to 4958 for Season 1989/90.

Stoke City are still the club with the best average attendance of 11,952 and the figures for the home game against Birmingham City earlier in the season of 16,135 is the highest in the Third Division so far. At the other end of the scale Chester hold the record for the lowest attendance for a league fixture of only 631, when they played Reading and in addition their average attendance for the whole season is only 1551.

To claim to be the highest scorers in the Third Division for the season looks like being a close thing for at the moment Bury lead with 64, Southend have 63, Grimsby and Wigan have 62 each but they could be overtaken by Cambridge United who now have 58 with still several games in hand in which to add to their total and overtake these other clubs.

In terms of individual scoring achievement, only one player out of the top 12 in the Division managed to find

the mark last Saturday, that player was Dion Dublin of Cambridge United who took his total to 23, which is still 3 behind Brett Angell of Southend who has 26, 15 in the league and 11 in other competitions. One player will not be able to add to the 21 that he already has for the season, that player is Ian Muir of Tranmere Rovers who is out with injury for the rest of the season.

Just one club, Cambridge United can claim to have 2 players in the group of leading scorers, all others come from different clubs. The full list being Angell (Southend) 26, Philliskirk (Bolton) 24, Dublin (Cambridge) 23, Muir (Tranmere) 21, Gilligan (Swansea) 20, Taylor (Cambridge) 19, Blissett (Bournemouth) 18, Page (Wigan) 18, Castle (Orient) 16, McCarthy (Bradford City) 16, Sussex (Crewe Alex) 16, Blissett (Brentford) 15.

BARCLAYS LEAGUE DIVISION THREE

(as at 16/4/91)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Southend.....	40	24	5	11	63	46	77
Grimsby.....	41	22	9	10	62	32	75
Bolton.....	41	20	10	11	55	46	70
Bury.....	42	19	12	11	64	52	69
Tranmere.....	41	19	9	13	56	43	66
Huddersfield.....	42	18	12	12	55	45	66
Cambridge.....	37	18	10	9	58	40	64
Bournemouth.....	40	17	12	11	52	49	63
Brentford.....	39	16	13	10	51	41	61
Wigan.....	40	17	8	15	62	50	59
Bradford City.....	39	16	10	13	54	46	58
Birmingham.....	41	14	16	11	42	45	58
Stoke City.....	41	15	11	15	52	52	56
Leyton Orient.....	38	17	5	16	45	49	56
Exeter.....	41	15	9	17	55	46	54
Reading.....	39	15	8	16	48	52	53
Preston.....	40	14	9	17	48	58	51
Chester.....	39	12	8	19	39	49	44
Swansea.....	38	12	7	19	43	61	43
Fulham.....	40	8	13	19	35	51	37
Mansfield.....	40	8	12	20	38	52	36
Shrewsbury.....	38	8	10	20	47	60	34
Crewe Alex.....	39	7	11	21	51	71	32
Rotherham.....	40	7	11	22	40	77	32

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Good evening and welcome to this evening's visitors, Bolton Wanderers. I am sure we are in for our usual hard game against our Lancashire rivals.

On Thursday last, we were invited along by the Football Club to their "Thank you" night to all Advertisers and Match Sponsors. On this occasion we were represented by Glyn Steele and David Slack. When we recently sponsored the Cambridge United game along with David Vaughan, Livestock Agent, Glyn and Dave missed out on the pre-match meal and tour of the ground. So, it was fitting that they should go along for the evening on this occasion.

As we are all too quickly coming to the end of another season, I would like to take this early opportunity to thank the two lads and all the other office staff and helpers who man the Souvenir Shop on Matchdays. It really is surprising how many callers we get in the period prior to kick off. There is always something new around whether it be badges or souvenir items. Why not come in yourself and see what we have to offer, on the other hand if you have any suggestions as to how the Association can help its members and the Football Club as well, then any of our Committee Members would be pleased to discuss them with you.

Don't forget your voting slips for the 'Player of the Season'. They are now available from our office. This season could well be one of those where the voting is very close, every vote cast makes it even more interesting.

With this run of home games we hope that all true Alex supporters will give the lads tremendous support as they fight to retain their place in Division Three.

Brian Smith

STOP PRESS!

Congratulations to the 'B' team for winning the Championship of the 2nd Division of the Lancashire League. The 2-2 draw at Carlisle clinched top place.

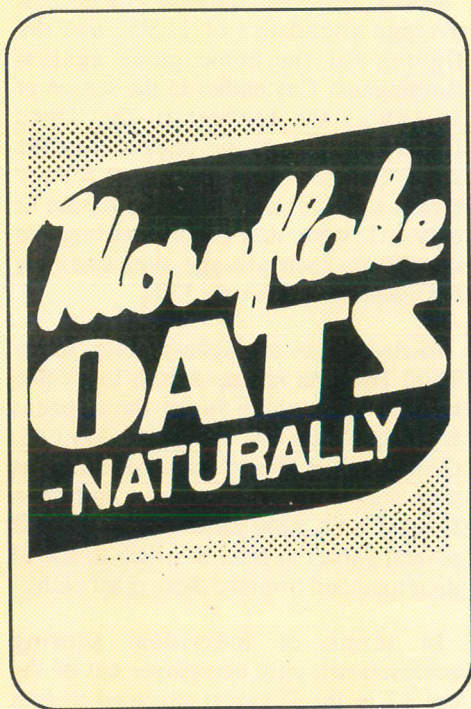
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PLAYER PROFILE

This evening we turn the spotlight on to yet another of the younger players on the staff who already has made over 50 first team appearances for the club in league and cup games. Our subject is **ROB JONES** who has been wearing the No. 2 shirt in recent weeks.

Rob was born in Wrexham but when he was quite young, his parents moved to Ellesmere Port. He played for Ellesmere Port Boys, Cheshire Schoolboys and also played in an England trial but did not make the team. It was when he was playing for Halton against Crewe that he was invited to come to Crewe and he first signed for the club on Associate Schoolboy forms and later joined the club on the Y.T.S. Scheme. At the end of the two years he was taken on to the professional staff.

During the time that he has been with the Alex he has come through the club's 'B' and 'A' sides and the highly successful Youth side and it was on the 9th April, 1988 that he was selected to play in the league side, at home to Darlington. He played several more times before the season ended.

In the following season he was again to play in the first team and it was on 17th September, 1988 that he scored his first league goal, by a strange coincidence, it was the opening goal in a home fixture with Darlington. In addition to playing for the Alex he was also selected to play twice in the England Youth side along with Steve Walters.

His total of games would have been higher had it not been for certain injury problems that he encountered but after quite a lengthy spell on the sidelines he fought his way back into the side. His grandfather played for Liverpool and England, his name should be quite well known to football followers, for it was Tom Jones.

He always wanted to be a professional footballer and his all time favourite is Kenny Dalglish for not only did he admire him for his skill but also for his devotion to the game. He has often watched Liverpool in action and it was most certainly one of the highlights for him to be able to play against them in the Rumbelows Cup during the current season.



As with many of the younger players he does not have any superstitions and does not follow any particular routine on a match day. He enjoys Chinese meals but was quick to point out that he would not consider having one before a game.

For relaxation he enjoys a game of golf and likes to watch a wide variety of sports on the various television channels and as for music then it would have to be modern but not necessarily any one particular group or performer.

He is generally satisfied that the laws of the game are quite adequate at the moment but if he really had to find something where a change could be made it would be in respect of goalkeepers for he considers that at times they are allowed too much protection.

Although he is thoroughly enjoying playing for the Alex he is ambitious enough to want to play at the highest level possible, through the Divisions into the top one and what would make it even more memorable would be if he eventually gained a full cap for England. He is single, but is engaged to Helen.

As we said earlier, he only has one league goal to his credit at the present time, another one this evening would be an ideal time for him to get it.

YOUTH TEAM UPDATE by Barry Bennell

Wednesday, 10th April: CREWE ALEX 'B' 2 MANCHESTER UNITED 'B' 2

The last of the homes games in Division Two of the Lancashire League for our 'B' side took place at Gresty Road last Wednesday evening and quite a number of fans came along to see them in action.

In recent weeks we have been deprived of the services of several of our regular players due to injuries, in particular we have missed both Steve Garvie and Anthony Hughes and therefore in some games we have not been as dominant as we were earlier in the season.

In this particular game, just as I have reported in other issues, we had the chances to have been 3 or 4 goals ahead but by the half time interval all we had to show for our dominance was a single goal scored by Craig Hignett, one of our over age players.

Following our half time talk in which the emphasis was on getting people forward we found ourselves being pulled back when United scored with a long range effort. We did get another from Chris Duffey but United also scored again to make it a draw when we should have been well clear.

The visiting side chased every single ball and competed for everything and there were times during the second period when I considered that a number of our players showed a distinct lack of character, a point on which I enlarged after the game had ended. There are still 2 games to go in which we can get the single point that would win the championship of Division Two of the Lancashire League but it would have been good to have done it in style at Gresty Road.

Team: Stephenson, Locke, Graham, Sorvel, Woodward, Jackson, Hignett, Whalley, Duffey, Wall and Gardiner. Substitutes: Maloney and Adeboola not used.

Justin Wall prepares himself for a "chest trap"



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JUNIOR ALEX NEWS

When the Junior Alex hold their 5 a side competition on Sunday, 19th May, they will be looking for quite a number of helpers. We particularly need referees for the games so if you can help out then please ring Dave Tomlinson on 580264. The event will take place between 10.00 a.m. and 5.00 p.m. and we are hoping to have teams representing Stoke, Bolton, Bury, Huddersfield, Rotherham, Wigan, Watford and ourselves. Your support at these games will be much appreciated and whatever help you can give us other than refereeing will ensure that the day is a very successful one. We do hope that people will come forward and discuss the matter with Dave Tomlinson given above.

Next, it is very important that you complete and hand in your voting forms for the Player of the Year. The date of the Party is Monday, 13th May starting at 6.30 p.m. (after training) and finishing at 9.30 p.m. There will be a disco, refreshments, the awards and plenty of fun and for the Adults there will also be a licensed bar. Entrance is **free** to members, but remember you must have your membership card with you and for non-members it will cost 50p. We are very grateful to G.P.L. Leisure for the help that they are giving to us.

Should any members wish to travel to any of the remaining away games this season (these are at Grimsby, Birmingham and Macclesfield) then they get the details from John Ford on 0477 33805.

Good luck from the Family Stand for this evening's game.

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MATCH MASCOT

For the second time this season our Match mascot for this game against Bolton Wanderers is **ANDREW KINSMAN** who is now 10 years old. He attends Monks Coppenhall School and on the other occasion that he was Mascot, the Alex won - that was against Rotherham in the F.A. Cup. He is a very keen Alex fan and he plays for his school team and also for the C.Y.C. Youth Centre in the Lads and Dads League, He has several favourite players and has chosen Jason Smart on this occasion.

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- 11 ROB EDWARDS
- 12
- 14

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- 8 STEVE THOMPSON
- 9 TONY CUNNINGHAM
- 10 TONY PHILLISKIRK
- 11 JULIAN DARBY
- 12
- 14

Referee: **S.D. BELL** (Huddersfield)

Linesmen: **E.B. CROMPTON** (Red Trimmed Flag)

M.J. PENN (Yellow Trimmed Flag)

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